

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-12

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DRAFTED BY:OPIC/GC:CFLIPMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, AF

SUBJECT: OPIC COUNSEL COMMENTS RECENT TDY; YAQUB LEATHER PROJECT

1. BELIEVE MUCH ACCOMPLISHED DURING RECENT TDY AND THANK EMBASSY AND USAID FOR ASSISTANCE.
2. OPIC QUITE INTERESTED IN PURSUING YAQUB LEATHER PROJECT AND AS FIRST STEP REQUEST EMBASSY TO CONTACT DR. SAM TARAKI TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE IS WILLING TO REPRESENT OPIC FOR PROJECT AND WHAT HIS FEES WILL BE; PLEASE CABLE HIS RESPONSE TO OPIC, ATTN. LIPMAN. DURING TDY LIPMAN CONTACTED THIS LAWYER, GAVE HIM BACKGROUND MATERIALS ABOUT OPIC AND FORM LOAN AGREEMENT, AND ASKED HIM TO CONSIDER REPRESENTING OPIC ON PROJECT AND FOR ESTIMATE OF HIS FEES.
3. ONCE HE IS RETAINED, WILL ATTEMPT NAIL DOWN THROUGH HIM PRESENT LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN TO ESTABLISH BASIS FOR INVESTMENT DECISIONS. COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING TDY FROM GOA OFFICIALS AND OTHERS, WHILE ENCOURAGINGLY OPTIMISTIC, IN IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH OF COUP WERE UNDERSTANDABLY SPECULATIVE ONLY. BASICALLY, WILL WANT TO DETERMINE WHICH NEW

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LAWS HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BY NEW GOA, WHICH OLD LAWS CONFIRMED,

AND WHICH OLD LAWS ABOLISHED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW PRES. AND PM
ORAL STATEMENT TO PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT JULY 25 THAT CONSTITU-
TION WAS NULL AND VOID AND THAT NEW ONE WOULD FOLLOW IN DUE
COURSE. (FOR EXAMPLE, WHAT LAWS SUBSIDIARY TO AND DERIVATIVE OF
CONSTITUTION FELL WITH IT?) WILL PROBABLY ASK SIMILAR QUESTIONS
OF OTHERS MET DURING TDY, WITH INFO COPIES TO EMBASSY. WILL
ALSO CONDUCT NORMAL FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS OF PROJECT.
ROGERS

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